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Antofogasta, certifies that the disease which is now prevailing there and of which the effects are so terrible and so much felt throughout the city, is really the true bubonic plague."

Pasteur institute of Rio de Janeiro.

In this institute, during the three months ended March 31, 1904, there were 134 admissions for consultation, 65 for treatment; 69 were not admitted to hospital, as they needed no treatment; 54 concluded the treatment, 9 abandoned it, 1 person died, and at the close of the period 17 remained under treatment. All figures are for treatment for hydrophobia. The patient who died did not present himself for treatment until nine days after the death of the dog by which he was bitten.

Public health, State of São Paulo—Improvements in Rio de Janeiro—Dysentery in Pernambuco—Vaccination.

During the week ended April 24, 1904, I inspected and issued bills of health to the following vessel: Steamship *Merchant Prince*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee; no passengers from here of any class, but six first-class from the Rio Plata, and with no change of personnel of the crew while in this port. This was the only vessel leaving here for the United States during the week.

Public health in the State of São Paulo.

"Both yellow fever and bubonic plague made their appearance in some parts of the State, but owing to the measures promptly taken were quickly got under control and did not spread, a significant testimony to the value of our sanitary service and to the zeal with which scientific observation and teaching that reach us from abroad are here assimilated and utilized. Due to this attitude, as soon as the question of transmission of yellow fever was scientifically discussed the sanitary service was able to put into execution all the precautions prescribed by recent discoveries."

The above is from the message of the President of the State of São Paulo to the State legislature, and refers to the past year 1903. From the same message I also inclose that portion bearing on the drainage and water supply of the city of Santos.

Improvements in Rio de Janeiro.

"The work of demolition for the Avenue (Central), is going rapidly on, and the two extremities of it at Prainha and Adjuda are already in ruins. It is easy enough to pull down and destroy. It is the rebuilding that will be tedious and laborious, and we fear that it will be a long time before, with such ambitious plans, the avenue will be rebuilt.

Things are certainly improving, and, with new streets and new avenues, manners, too, are to be reformed and some respect be shown for common decency. The open, offensive sanitary arrangements that disgraced some of the most central parts of the city are disappearing and being replaced by modern, up-to-date constructions that would be a credit anywhere.

A somewhat novel experiment is being made to exterminate the rats

that infest the surface drainage sewers by closing up all the exits and then filling the sewers with sulphurous acid gas from a Clayton apparatus. Hitherto this apparatus had been used only for disinfecting ships, but should this experiment be successful, a far wider scope will be opened."

Outbreak of dysentery in Pernambuco.

The latest press reports from Recife (Pernambuco) say that during the first two weeks of this month there were 276 deaths from dysentery. The total mortality for this period was 588 (almost, indeed, within a few numbers of the mortality in this city during the same period, although the population of Rio is at least three if not almost four times as much as that of Recife), of which number dysentery caused 276, other diseases of the digestive apparatus 63, tuberculosis 46, small-pox 29, and malaria 25.

A dispatch from Recife, of date of April 23, states that "some of the deaths from dysentery here are distinguished by the incredible rapidity with which a fatal termination follows the inception of the disease."

A dispatch dated April 23, from the same city, states that in Pesqueira, a town of the State of Pernambuco, "the sanitary condition is very bad. Typhoid fever and malaria are present, diminishing the population. In addition to these diseases, at this time, many deaths have been caused by famine, according to reliable information. The Gazette de Pesqueira has suspended its publication. The division of hygiene has sent medical aid to this locality."

Plague in Para.

A dispatch dated April 24 states that "bubonic plague still lingers in Para, where deaths from this cause are frequent."

No plague in Porto Alegre.

A dispatch dated April 22 states that "the epidemic of bubonic plague here is considered now extinct."

Vaccination in and around Rio de Janeiro.

During the month of March the personnel of the Municipal Institute for Vaccination visited 668 houses, 206 lodging houses and hotels and other habitations, including 4 schools.

There were made during the month by the vaccination service 1,198 vaccinations, of which 547 were primary ones.

In the institute itself during the month 416 vaccinations were performed.

Two hundred and thirty-four notifications of variola were received during the month, of which number 144 were verified, and of this number (144) 139 had never been vaccinated and the other 5 had not been revaccinated.

To the federal district—the city of Rio de Janeiro—6,812 tubes of vaccine were sent; 4,295 to the department of the director of public health and the federal services; 1,000 to the director of municipal hygiene, and 1,517 to divers physicians and medical institutions.

To the various States of the Republic were sent as follows: Minas Geraes, 1,786 tubes; Rio de Janeiro, 1,206; Rio Grande do Norte, 500; Goyaz, 270; Amazonas, Para, Maranhao, Piauhy, Ceara, Parahyba, Pernambuco, Alagoas, Sergipe, Bahia, Espirito Santo, Parana, Santa Catharina, Matto Grosso, Rio Grande do Sul—to each of these States 100 tubes; and to Sao Paulo, 20; in all, 5,282 tubes of vaccine.

Altogether 12,094 tubes of virus were distributed, and the product from 30 cows used.

Sanitary report of Rio de Janeiro.

During the week ended April 24 there were, in all, 328 deaths. Of this number 5 were caused by yellow fever, with the same number of new cases. * * *

Plague caused only 1 death, with 2 new cases reported, the death occurring in the Santa Rita district of the city. At the close of the week there were but 4 cases under treatment at Jurajuba.

Variola caused 34 deaths, with 58 new cases reported, and at the close of the week Sao Sebastiao Hospital held 104 cases of this disease under treatment.

No deaths were caused by whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever, or dysentery. Diphtheria caused 1 death, grippe 6, typhoid fever 2, beriberi 3 (none from leprosy), malarial fevers 13, and tuberculosis 55.

The weather has been very cool and pleasant, with a total of 5.31 mm. of rainfall during the week.

The highest range of the thermometer was on April 18, 26.2° C., and the lowest on April 24, 18° C.

The average temperature for the week was 20.82° C.

History and treatment of plague in Rio de Janeiro.

The following is received from Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart, under date of May 1:

I have the honor herewith to forward a few remarks upon the outbreak of bubonic plague in this city during the past few years and up to the present date.

In the first place, what has differentiated this outbreak of plague here—for it can hardly be said to have been really an epidemic in this city at any time since its appearance—from almost all other outbreaks of infectious disease in most localities is the fact that although pronounced to be true bubonic plague by the health authorities of this city and of Brazil, and although quarantine measures have been in force against this locality by the remainder of Brazil and by almost all foreign countries having communication with Brazil, still many foreigners here and also Portuguese residents of the country, true Brazilians, have maintained from the first, and to-day maintain as vigorously as ever, that there never has been at any moment any disease at all resembling in severity bubonic plague in either this city or for the matter of that, in any city of this country.

This sentiment has largely pervaded all the shipping classes, including the captains of the vessels trading here, as well as the shipping firms in this city. To such an extent has this idea pervaded these classes of persons that they absolutely scoff at the mention of bubonic plague, and although obliged by the Brazilian authorities to submit their ships to quarantine measures against plague, they lose no oppor-